



2011 Annual Report



Message From the Sheriff

Another uphill battle awaited the Erie County Sheriff's Office for 2011 as we started out with a 20% reduction in operating costs and a severe manpower shortage, with the sudden loss of nearly 1,000 years combined police experience; nearly 30 road patrol deputies retired in order to keep their lifetime health insurance benefits. To help remedy the problem, we had to recruit lateral entries such as state certified village and parks police officers who were, through no fault of their own, getting the budget axe themselves. It would have been cost prohibitive to screen and hire new officers and send them through the Erie County Police Training Academy quickly enough to get them on the road. Obtaining manpower in this way allowed us to save the Erie County taxpayers about one million dollars in training academy costs. However, some of those savings were eaten up by overtime costs; when you lose about one fifth of your police services division with little advance notice, there are inherent consequences in the form of increased overtime costs. Still, we feel this was money well spent, as we were able to maintain our quick and efficient response time in all of our districts, including the 16 towns and five villages we patrol in the county.

We were also dealt a blow when the former county executive blindsided us by laying off nearly our entire civilian workforce. For example, it was difficult to operate an agency without clerical staff or receptionists to answer the phones. I had to sacrifice three command positions in order to make the monies available to bring back this staff. Again, it was a staggering blow and to this day, I sometimes wonder how we do what we do with what little staff is available.

In other matters, Governor Cuomo proposed a statewide prison cost-cutting plan in order to save money. One of the facilities that he proposed be closed was the under-utilized Buffalo Work Release Facility in Alden, New York, not far from the penitentiary where we house



sentenced inmates. As soon as I heard the news, I reiterated what I have been saying for the past seven years; that I would be interested in utilizing an already existing jail building, should it become available, to help ease the overcrowding at the Erie County Correctional Facility and Erie County Holding Center, and to avoid the cost of constructing a new jail at taxpayer's expense. I am completely open-minded to the use of the facility, and could envision it housing female inmates or parole violators, or simply being used as a transport center for prisoners in outlying areas. Why build new, when used will do?

We also have been working very hard with City of Buffalo police officials to eventually turn the lock-up of their male prisoners back over to them. Under an agreement with the previous sheriff and the previous City of Buffalo Mayor, the Erie County Sheriff's Office took in all of Buffalo police arrests, sometimes averaging 80-100 inmates a day, putting additional strains on an already overburdened staff and building. This 8-year arrangement has been viewed by many as a disaster because of the millions of dollars it has cost Erie County taxpayers, and again, because of the extra burden on staff and the facility. In 2003, this move was characterized as a step toward regionalism that would save money because

of the Holding Center's lower cost per inmate; however, it turned out to be a huge money drain for Erie County.

We were proud to help implement Silver Alert in Erie County, one of a handful of counties across the state to have such a local law. With the help of Erie County Legislator Ed Rath III, this system provides a standard protocol for law enforcement agencies and others to follow, particularly in distributing information to the media if someone with dementia is reported missing. The system calls on the Sheriff's Office to issue an alert when a local law enforcement agency determines that the disappearance of a county resident with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or a related cognitive disorder poses a credible threat of death or serious injury to the person, and it is believed that an emergency alert would help find them.

Another highlight of 2011 was when Deputy Liz Fildes, BS, MS, and Program Director of Human Trafficking in our office, was one of a handful of people named by the Buffalo News as Citizen of the Year. She was recognized for her tireless efforts in helping victims of Human Trafficking and for educating the public on this scourge. Deputy Fildes was also able to secure a two-year, half million dollar federal grant for the Erie County Sheriff's Office to continue her work in this ever-evolving field.

Hosting the New York State Sheriff's Association Summer Conference last year in Buffalo was my pleasure. I had such a good time, and from the comments from fellow sheriffs across the state who attended, they too seemed to have a good time. I dedicated a page at the end of the annual report for pictures from the conference. I hope you enjoy!

And finally, it seems to be a common theme threaded throughout my message: saving taxpayer money and doing more with less. I think every law enforcement agency in the country has been taxed with doing more work with less funds. It is a sign of the times and we must learn to be creative by working within these parameters while never sacrificing public safety for the citizens we serve. As always, public safety is a cooperative effort; we all need to be involved. Remember, if you see something, say something.

Timothy B. Howard

Mission Statement

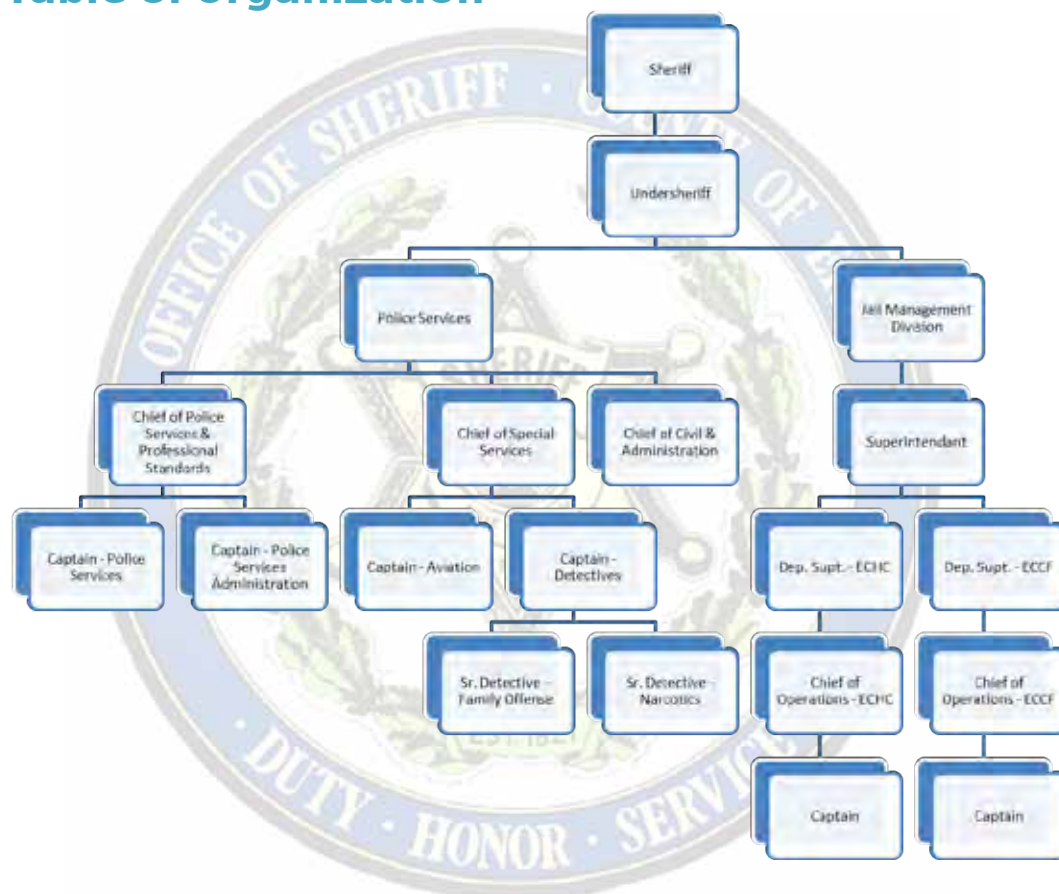
The mission of the Office of the Sheriff is to provide the finest public safety services to all those within Erie County. Our Office works together with other law enforcement and community agencies to enforce and uphold all laws for which we are responsible.

The Office of the Sheriff will maintain a secure, safe, and orderly jail and correctional facility that recognizes the dignity of all inmates and prisoners while adhering to the standards and guidelines set forth by the New York State Commission of Corrections.

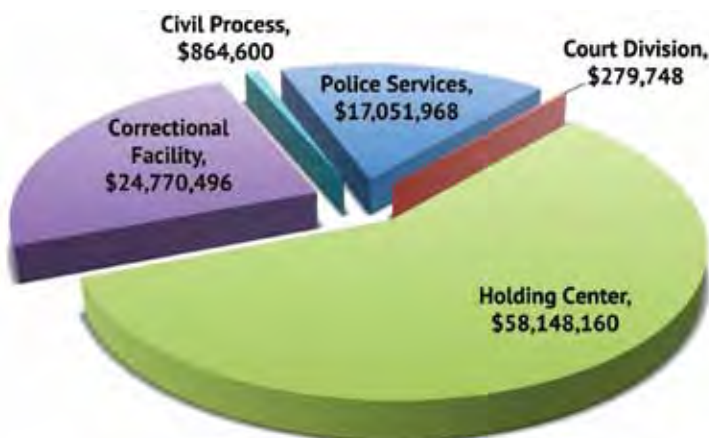
The Office of the Sheriff will serve by protecting individual rights, safeguarding public and private property, assisting in emergency situations, and performing any other essential service.

The Office of the Sheriff will maintain the highest level of integrity, while working diligently and professionally to provide a safe environment for the public and our staff.

Table of Organization



Erie County Sheriff's 2011 Budget \$101,114,972



Command Staff - Top row (l-r) (Chief John Rodriguez, Chief Scott Patronik, Sheriff Timothy Howard, Undersheriff Mark Wipparman, Chief Scott Joslyn. Bottom row (l-r) Chief John Anthony, Deputy Superintendent Mike Reardon, Deputy Superintendent Thomas Diina, Superintendent Robert Koch; missing from photo Chief Timothy Love

JAIL MANAGEMENT DIVISION



Erie County Holding Center, Buffalo, NY

The Jail Management Division accounts for more than half of the Sheriff's \$101,000,000 budget. It is responsible for the care and custody of inmates confined by Erie County, Village, Town and City Courts, the New York Division of Parole, and inmates brought in from outside agencies such as the U.S. Marshals, Immigration, and other counties. Staff provides security, prisoner transportation, medical care, inmate rehabilitation, record keeping, religious needs, visitation, and other support activities. The Jail Management Division consists of two facilities, the downtown jail known as the Erie County Holding Center, and the Erie County Correctional Facility in the Town of Alden.

The Erie County Holding Center is a maximum security facility designed to house approximately 600 inmates. These inmates, generally speaking, are either un-sentenced or classified as high risk. The facility is centrally located in downtown Buffalo in close proximity to the City Court and County Court system, facilitating due process.

The Erie County Correctional Facility, located in Alden, New York is designed to hold approximately 900 prisoner/inmates and is a medium security facility. There are also several annexes that are utilized for securing the inmates/prisoners assigned here. These inmates/prisoners are generally classified as low- medium risk inmates. It costs Erie County taxpayers approximately \$163.80 per day to house each inmate at each facility. However, when the Sheriff's Office houses state prisoners, we are reimbursed just \$100.00 per day per inmate, and that only happens after the prisoners have been at our facility for ten business days. New York State does not reimburse the ECSO for parole violators. There are approximately 725 employees between both jails.

The biggest overhaul at the Correctional Facility in 2011 was the kitchen, as it underwent a nearly million dollar facelift. The renovations included replacement of the kitchen floor; better utilization of kitchen space; replacement of food service equipment, including high capacity kettles; ovens, dishwasher tray washer; food prep sinks; replacement of walk-in freezers and coolers; replacement of mechanical systems; replacement and relocation of a grease trap to the exterior of building, and other renovations.

Inmates/ Prisoners are afforded three meals a day at each facility. The total yearly tab for food for both facilities is pegged at \$2,267,880.00.





Erie County Correctional Facility, Alden, NY

Training

In-service training is one of the most important responsibilities any law enforcement agency has. Training serves four basic objectives: A well trained staff is better prepared to act decisively and correctly; training results in greater productivity and effectiveness; training nourishes cooperation and unity of purpose; and training provides safeguards for being legally accountable for actions of personnel. Between both facilities, there were 28,507 man hours of in-service training for sworn personnel. Medical staff and civilian staff are also required to attend in-service training.



Jail Records

This unit is responsible for inmate intake, release, local sentence calculation, court updates, fugitive extraditions, reporting and scheduling of New York State Department of Corrections transfers, and recording and reporting of the daily population count.

Jail records staff at the Holding Center booked 21,101 people on various charges and processed paper work for 21,096 inmate releases in 2011. More than 630 state ready inmates and parole violators were processed through this unit. The average stay for a male inmate at the Erie County Holding Center (EHC) is 11 days; the average stay for a male at the Erie County Correctional Facility (ECCF) is 28 days. The average stay of a female inmate at the Holding Center is 3 days; at the ECCF, it is 19 days.

Mental Health

It is the policy of the Erie County Department of Mental Health Forensics (ECMH) to provide individuals suffering from chronic and acute mental illness; developmental disabilities; co-occurring disorders of mental illness; addictions; and severe adjustment issues, with psychiatric treatment, case management services and counseling as deemed clinically appropriate. These services are offered at both the Erie County Holding Center and Erie County Correctional Facility. ECMH Forensics will also provide competency evaluations and mental health assessment for the courts, probation and treatment recommendations.

Inmates are screened for suicides numerous times, including when they are initially admitted to the Erie County Holding Center; a second time if they are remanded to the jail after their arraignment; a third time when they are sentenced; and, if it is deemed necessary, more often by either medical or forensic mental health.

According to the Erie County Department of Mental Health, nationwide, the general population (non-incarcerated) that is being provided mental health services is approximately 20%, or 1 in 5 Americans. In our general population within our jail, 35% of the population is being treated for mental illness (nearly double the general population). The average daily number of inmates classified as "de-toxing" (males and females) at the EHC is 25. In 2011, there were 3,823 inmates at the Erie County Holding Center that were referred to Forensic Mental Health (FMH) for evaluation; and 800 inmates at the Erie County Correctional Facility that were referred to FMH.



Medical Services

Medical services are provided by the facility physician or Physician's Assistant and the medical staff, who are employed by the Erie County Department of Health. Decisions regarding health care services, treatment, medications, and hospital referrals are the sole responsibility of the facility physicians. Dental care is also provided by the facility dentist. \$6,058,581 was paid in 2011 for all of the expenses related to the Medical Units at both facilities as administered by the Erie County Health Department, including nursing staff, physicians, dentists, and medical supplies.

Also, taxpayers paid \$1,500,855 for prescription medications for inmates, and an additional \$1,801,490 for their visits to clinics, their inpatient admissions, and emergency room visits to area hospital(s). \$312,634.00 was paid for inmates' x-rays, MRI's, labor and delivery, and ambulance trips to hospitals.



Educational Services

Educational services are provided by the City of Buffalo School District at the Erie County Holding Center, and by the Alden Central School District at the Erie County Correctional Facility. A total of six teachers teach programs that include G.E.D. preparation, life skills, computer literacy, and parenting classes. Approximately 90-100 inmates per year earn their G.E.D. while incarcerated.

Other courses offered include: First time/Last time, which provides counseling and crisis intervention for youth between the ages of 16 and 21 booked into the Holding Center for the first time who want to make it their last time; Forensic Counseling Program, which is available to any inmate and provides counseling on a professional level to help them effectively cope with emotional and/or personal problems which might affect mental health; and Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, which are free counseling programs offered by volunteers from the community who come in to talk about addiction and how to deal with it.

2011 JMD Inmate Expenses

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Clothing	52,486
Pants, shirts, underwear, bras, socks, shower shoes	
Bath and Bedding	42,852
Shower curtains, bath mats, towels, wathcloths, sheets, pillow cases, pillows, mattresses,	
Food	2,267,880
Prescription Medication	1,500,855
Includes Disposal of Prescription Medication	
Medical Services	312,634
Doctor, x-rays, MRI's, labor and delivery, ambulance, interpreter	
ECMCC	1,801,490
Inpatient, clinics, ER visits	
Haircuts (EHC only)	34,628
Toilet Paper	57,059
Laundry Services	164,226
Outside Laundry Service	
Laundry Supplies	21,689
Laundry Soap, Bags, and Supplies	
Hygiene Supplies	35,442
Bar soap, razors, shaving cream, sanitary pads, tampons, toothbrushes, toothpaste	
ID Health Services	6,058,581
All expenses related to the medical units at the Holding Center and Correctional Facility as administered by the Health Department including nursing staff, physicians, dentists & medical supplies	
ID Library Services	291,348
TOTAL	\$12,641,170

Library Services



A library has been established by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System for inmates/prisoners in the Holding Center/Correctional Facility. Within this is a law library, to which incarcerated individuals have access. The law library contains current legal materials and references as mandated, such as NYS Correctional Law; NYS Penal Law Annotated; NYS Criminal Procedure Law Annotated; Title 9NYSCR Subtitle A (Minimum Standards); a legal dictionary; form books for use in conjunction with NYS Criminal Procedure Law; and New York State Civil Practice Laws and Rules, etc..

Currently, a total of five K9s are assigned to the Erie County Holding Center and Correctional Facility. They are either German shepards or short-haired pointers. They undergo substantial training with their handlers and have been obtained through seized assets. These canines are able to detect marijuana, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamines. They are also being trained in the detection of controlled narcotics such as Loritabs, oxycontin, and other controlled substances.



Deputy Randy Ratajczak and his K-9 Cer.

Inmate Visitation



Inmate visitation units at both the Erie County Holding Center and Alden Correctional Facility coordinated over 560 visits in 2011. Approximately 61,182 individuals were screened to enter the visitation lobbies of the facilities in 2011.

Trusty Program

Inmates wanting to participate in the Trusty Program at both facilities are required to undergo a four-part screening process that includes medical, forensic, classification, and attitude and demeanor. Inmates passing this process can work in the facilities' kitchens, linen rooms, law library, library, or work on the painting crew.



Service Action Corps

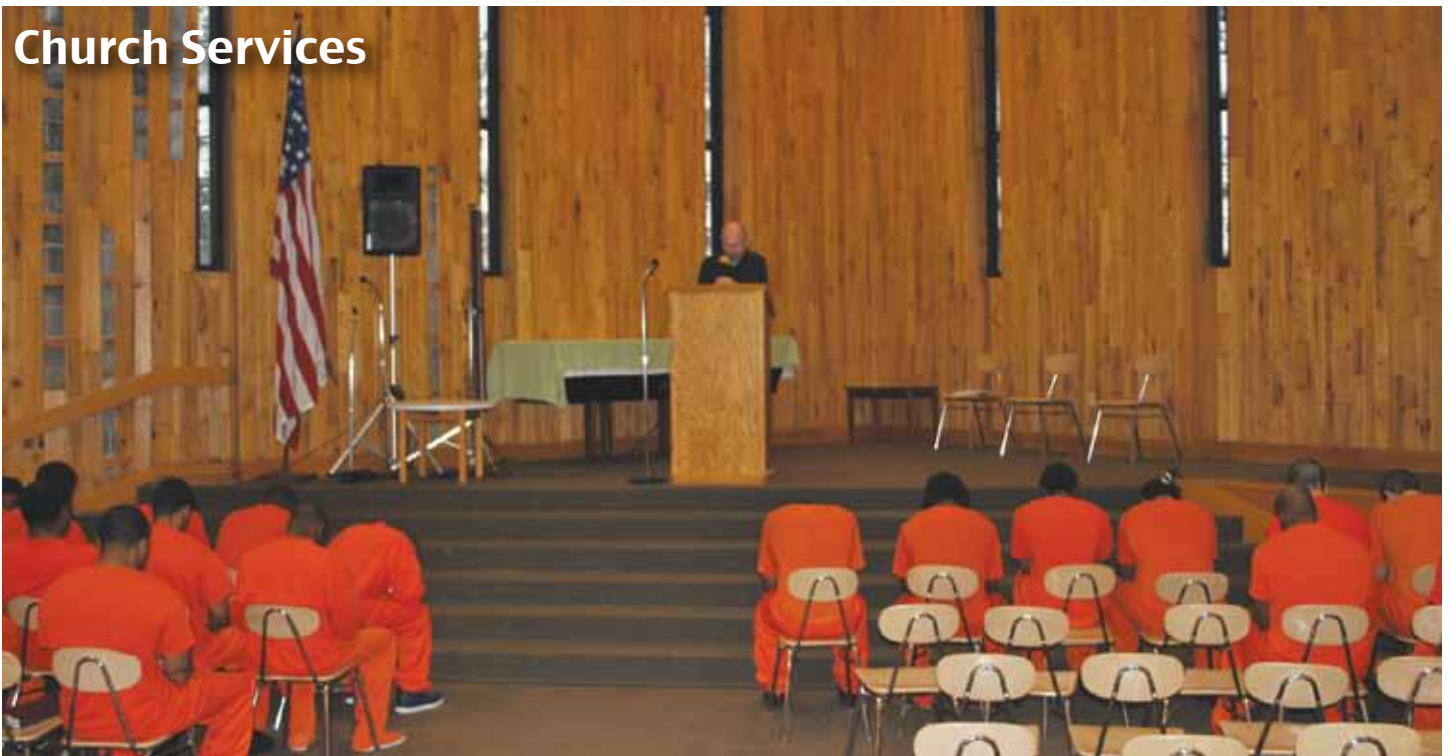
Sentenced inmates from the Erie County Correctional Facility participate in the Service Action Corps. This is a community service program in which inmates volunteer to perform heavy manual labor, respond to county-wide emergencies where cleanup is needed, cut grass, clear brush, and pick up debris.

To be eligible to participate in the Service Action Corps, prisoners must be classified as non-violent; have no criminal history of sex crimes; have no crimes against children; have no warrants against them; and have no behavioral problems in the jail.

It is estimated that in 2011, \$400,320 Erie County tax dollars were saved by having inmates assist government agencies with work projects. Two crews worked in 2011 for a total of 26,688 man-hours at \$15.00 per hour.



Church Services



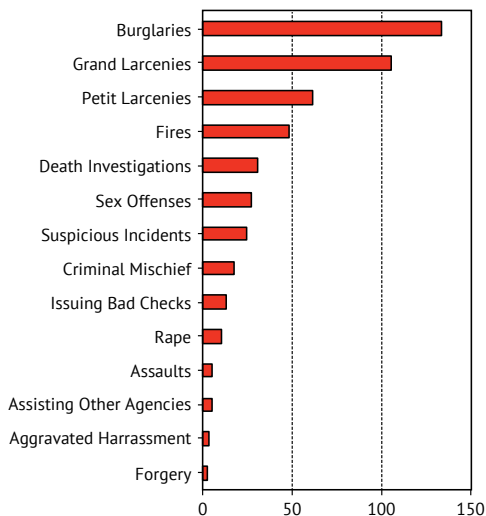
The Erie County Holding Center /Correctional Facility provide religious services for the Catholic, Muslim, and Protestant Faiths. Chaplains of each of these faiths are on staff and available for consultation via an inmate request slip. Each facility holds a set schedule for worship.

POLICE SERVICES DIVISION

The Police Services Division encompasses several facets of the Office of Sheriff, including the most readily recognizable to the citizens of Erie County; that is, the uniformed law enforcement officers in their distinctive red and white patrol vehicles. This division is charged with law enforcement duties, traffic enforcement, crime prevention, and service to the citizens of Erie County. The Sheriff's Office maintains substations in the towns of Grand Island, Clarence, Elma, Colden, and Collins, as well as in the Villages of Springville and North Collins. This deployment of personnel ensures rapid response to the needs and concerns of the citizens of Erie County, which encompasses 1,034 square miles.

A branch of the Police Services Division is the Investigative Services/ Detective Bureau. This unit is comprised of detectives who work with road patrol deputies and other area law enforcement agencies to investigate serious felony crimes such as rapes, grand larcenies, robberies, etc.

2011 Investigative Services/ Detective Bureau Stats



Communications Center

The Erie County Sheriff's Office Communications Center was temporarily under the direction of Central Police Services in 2011. Our Office received 88,963 calls for various police services. Broken down, that is approximately 1,710 calls per week, 244 calls a day, or 10 calls per hour.

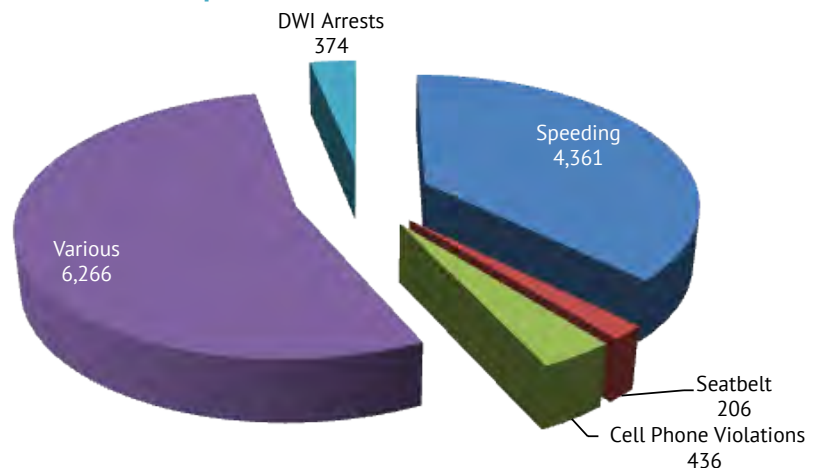
More than 11,000 tickets were issued on the roadways in Erie County by our deputies in 2011. A significant statistic is the number of DWI arrests. We made an average of more than one per day. The Erie County Sheriff's Office has zero tolerance when it comes to drinking and driving. Deputy Simon Biegasiewicz (middle in photo at right) was the recipient of the MADD/STOP-DWI Award for law enforcement. Deputy Biegasiewicz made 68 DWI arrests in 2011 and assisted in a total of 86 DWI's. Deputy Biegasiewicz is also a

Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), and is often called on by local police agencies to perform drug evaluations of suspects.

Deputy Biegasiewicz is flanked by (1-r) Sergeant Daniel Dytchowskyj and Lieutenant William Cranston of the Erie County Sheriff's Office.



Department Traffic Summons Issued 2011



Narcotics Unit

It is the responsibility of this unit to investigate narcotics-related incidents and to help reduce the usage and availability of illegal controlled substances in Erie County. The head of this unit directs narcotics investigations for the Sheriff's Office, and to this end, investigates, arrests, and helps in prosecuting drug users and traffickers. The Erie County Sheriff's Office subscribes to the adage that removing the seller from the streets assists in controlling criminals who are driven to crime in order to purchase drugs. In 2011, the Narcotics Unit lodged 116 arrests for possession of controlled substances, arrested 13 suspects for criminal possession of a weapon, and lodged a total of 327 various charges, including felonies, misdemeanors, and violations. This Unit also assisted other police agencies a total of 69 times.

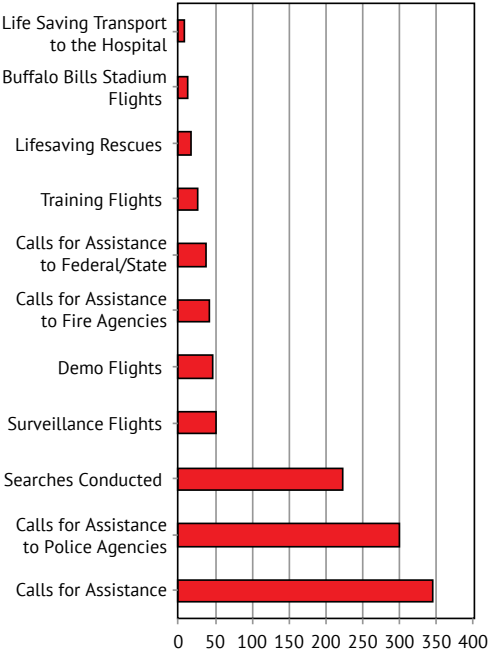




Aviation Unit

This unit has the only full-time dedicated law enforcement helicopter in Erie County. We are available to more than 24 police agencies and 96 fire companies in Erie County and respond on a regular basis to assist adjoining counties. We are also the first responder helicopter for the United States and Canadian Coast Guard in the Buffalo area. Air One is available 24 hours a day and is called into service for a variety of reasons, including search and rescues, helping other law enforcement agencies in tracking their suspects from the air, taking surveillance video, shooting pictures from the air to be used as evidence, etc. In 2011, the Aviation Unit logged 2,141 flight hours.

2011 Air One Helicopter Stats



The Scuba Dive Team - (l to r) Sgt. Warren Luick; Detective Brian Ohara; Deputy Jeremy Lehning; and Deputy Dan Walczak



Marine Unit

The Marine Patrol's primary function is patrolling the 90 miles of navigable waterways in Erie County. Deputies assigned to the unit are responsible for enforcement of navigation law and other related laws. They are on call 24 hours a day to perform search and rescue operations and accident investigations, including BWI (Boating While Intoxicated) and marine larceny investigations. These deputies sometimes work under extremely hazardous conditions due to

inclement weather. In 2011, The Marine Unit logged 2,876 patrol hours, inspected 157 vessels, issued 88 citations, and gave out 72 warnings for minor violations.



Scuba Dive Team

The Erie County Sheriff's SCUBA Dive Team consists of certified SCUBA divers affiliated with the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) who are trained and experienced in search and recovery of anything lost below the surface of the water in Erie County and surrounding areas. The divers are able to operate in all weather and water conditions to conduct searches for evidence, lost items of interest related to criminal investigations, and persons. The team is issued dry suits and full face masks to protect them from contaminants and the cold.

The SCUBA Dive Team has the capability of going through a hole in the ice where a victim has fallen through and rescuing them, hopefully in time to render first aid and possibly save a life.

The ability to do this is extremely important given the large amount of winter recreational activities that we have in our area, such as ice fishing, ice hockey, and cross country skiing. This team also trains and operates with our Marine Unit. They use boats to dive in a variety of different areas in Lake Erie and also in the strong currents of the Niagara River, from the Peace Bridge to the north end of Grand Island. The Dive Team does its best to keep up with the newest in dive training and tactics along with maintaining the best equipment possible to make sure that, when called upon, they provide the best service possible. In 2011, the Scuba Dive Team trained for 606 hours, conducted three searches, had nine call-outs, and participated in five special details, such as the Polar Bear Plunge.



Swat Team

The Erie County Sheriff's Office SWAT team provides an enhanced level of expertise to respond to high-risk situations. Team members are trained and equipped to respond to situations where the level of risk exceeds that of a conventional police response. These situations include barricaded/hostage/shots-fired situations; counter sniper operations, high-risk warrant service; dignitary protection; or other situations involving a high risk of serious injury or death to police officers or civilians. In addition, team members are trained in land navigation and woodland search and rescue to assist in situations involving missing or lost persons and to support Project Lifesaver's electronic tracking of at-risk individuals, such as Alzheimer's patients and autistic children. In 2011, the SWAT Team trained 3,894 hours, served 26 high-risk warrants, conducted one woodland search, had two multi-agency trainings, and were called out three times for a barricaded subject.



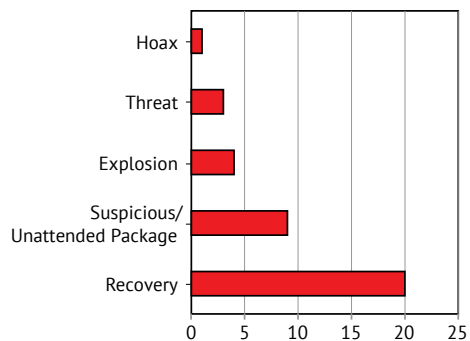
Weapons & Ordnance Unit

The Erie County Sheriff's Office Weapons & Ordnance (WOU) unit is comprised of several specialized teams that work cohesively to respond to call-outs and collect and store seized weapons. This unit consists of SWAT team and Bomb Squad members, along with firearms instructors. The deputies assigned to the Weapons and Ordnance Unit qualify and train hundreds of law enforcement personnel within the Sheriff's Office, along with other county, town, and village agencies, in the use of their assigned firearms.

In 2011, the WOU spent nearly 5,500 man hours in firearms training; 360 weapons were surrendered to this unit.



2011 W&O Unit Incidents



Captain Sean Simet and his K-9 Jules.

K-9 Corps/Police Services Division

The Erie County Sheriff's Office has three dogs tasked with performing different duties within the Police Services Division.

BOMB SQUAD UNIT- Captain Sean Simet's K-9 partner Jules is an ATF- (Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms) trained dog capable of detecting a wide range of explosives that include various types of gunpowder and commercial, military, and homemade explosives. Jewel put in 320 hours worth of training in 2011. Simet and his partner recovered 20 explosives in 2011 and assisted neighboring police agencies 31 times.

FIRE/HAZMAT UNIT - Detective Steve Meerboth's K-9 partner is Kindle, who is an integral partner in this unit. She is trained to sniff out petroleum-based products including gas, kerosene, alcohol, lamp oil, etc. Detectives Meerboth and Shaun Hediger investigated six arson fires in the county in 2011, as well as another 40 fires that were ruled undetermined.

PATROL- K-9 Deputy Brad Ballantyne and his partner Hayco (below) began working together in the middle of 2011. K-9 Hayco sniffs out a variety of drugs, helps track suspects, and assists in various facets of patrol work. Deputy Ballantyne, with the help of his partner, made 97 penal law arrests; 123 traffic arrests/summonses; had contact with 800 students in schools; performed more than a dozen lectures and demonstrations; and conducted nine school searches. K-9 Hayco also trained 180 hours.



Deputy Brad Ballantyne and his K-9 Hayco.

Snowmobile Unit

The Snowmobile Patrol is comprised of full-time deputies who help patrol the trails in Erie County. In the mild winter of 2011, this Unit patrolled 965 man hours. They issued 21 summonses, responded to 19 complaints, and issued 11 warnings.

Training

Training, just like in the Jail Management Division, is imperative for law enforcement officers. In 2011, members of the Police Services Division logged 4,433 hours of training. Of that amount, 1,896 was for firearms training.

The New York State Municipal Police Training Council requires that all police officers must qualify annually with their issued duty weapon.

Professional Standards

This Division is an avenue through which citizens can both protect their rights and voice complaints of possible misconduct of employees. Complaints received from citizens are treated in a positive manner; they are investigated and validated, and disciplinary action, if any, is determined. This division also investigates inter-departmental incidents; conducts confidential investigations; prepares civil law suits; monitors absenteeism; performs internal investigations; conducts pre-employment background checks; and facilitates urinalysis testing of all probationary employees.

In 2011, there were 172 cases investigated by the Professional Standards Division – down from 210 the previous year.

Civil Process Division



Deputy Joe Hastreiter

This Division aggressively seeks and develops partnerships with the community to satisfy their needs for the delivery of quality civil law enforcement and service of process.

The first of its kind certified as "Professionally Accredited" by the New York State Sheriff's Association, all sworn and civilian personnel of the Civil Process Division receive extensive, specialized training from its headquarters in Albany.

The Sheriff's Office is the sole law enforcement entity with jurisdiction in all courts in Erie County; it has statutory authority as the civil enforcement officer – from Town & Village courts to the County, Family and Supreme courts. The Civil Division's responsibilities fall within two distinct areas: Service of Process and Enforcement. The service area pertains to such items as summonses, subpoenas, petitions and court orders, while the enforcement area includes property and income executions, warrants for eviction or civil arrest and orders of seizure, among others.

In 2011, the Civil Division opened a total of 5,665 cases, with gross receipts of \$9,475,501; it forwarded \$8,720,918 to creditors and \$754,583 to Erie County's General Fund, which helps fund safety initiatives and reduce the tax burden on county citizens.

Income Executions

In general, the purpose of an execution is to enforce a creditor's money judgment. The type of property possessed by the judgment debtor and sought by the judgment creditor will determine the type of execution used. In general, executions fall into two categories: income and property.

Income Executions: This instrument, commonly referred to as a wage garnishment, is used to satisfy a money judgment from the debtor's earnings. This is done in two separate stages after a judgment is obtained in court. In 2011, there were 3,499 income executions.

Property Executions: The property execution is an instrument whereby a judgment creditor can "stand in the shoes" of a judgment debtor. The judgment creditor has obtained a judgment from a court and looks to obtain property, either tangible or non-tangible, of the judgment debtor to satisfy the debt. The type of property the judgment debtor has and the judgment creditor would like to obtain dictates the method or type of property execution utilized. In 2011, there were 244 property executions.

Administrative Services



Donna Jusiak, Sr. Personnel Clerk

The Administrative Services Division provides support services for all Divisions of the Erie County Sheriff's Office, including:

Payroll - Personnel - Pre-Employment - Absentee Control - Reception - Budget - Purchasing - Accounts Receivable/Payable - Grant Management - Fleet Administration - Foil (Freedom of Information Law)

Administrative Services furnishes all benefits to the more than 1,000 employees of the Sheriff's Office. The Erie County Sheriff's Office is an equal opportunity employer.

It is the responsibility of the Administrative Services Division to ensure that all regulations are enforced.

Evictions

Warrants of Evictions address the Sheriff as the enforcement officer. Once a Warrant of Eviction is delivered to the Sheriff, he will produce a Notice of Eviction. This is the Sheriff's notice whereby he informs the renter of the date and time the eviction is to commence. The Sheriff must serve this and the Warrant of Eviction on the renter, and at least 72 hours of notice needs to be given prior to the eviction. All Warrants of Eviction must be conducted between sunrise and sunset. Prior arrangements need to be made by the landlord for locksmiths and moving companies at time of eviction. The eviction cannot be considered perfected until all people and personal property are removed from said premises. Personal property must be stored off-site and cannot be placed curbside. Reasonable care must be taken to protect the property. This protects all parties involved. Throughout this process, the tenant has a right to his/her personal property. Denying access to this could result in the landlord being charged criminally. In 2011, there were 177 Warrants of Eviction.

The Administrative Coordinator/Staff:

- ★ Develops the departmental budget in cooperation with division heads and for approval of the Sheriff
- ★ Administers purchasing procedures
- ★ Supervises the processing of personnel and the maintenance of personnel records
- ★ Supervises budget control and administration
- ★ Assists employees with retirement benefits
- ★ Compiles statistics for the Equal Employment Opportunity Division
- ★ Maintains time and attendance records for both full- and part-time employees
- ★ Responds to employment inquiries
- ★ Handles United Way Cards, savings bonds, and employment verification.

Grant Management

The staff oversees projects within the Sheriff's Office that are funded by state and federal grant monies. In 2011, our office secured a \$500,000.00 (2-year) grant from the federal government for our efforts in combatting Human Trafficking.

Budget and Purchasing

This Division prepares, monitors, and reports on the entire budget for the Sheriff's office.

The staff administers revenues generated by all divisions, including:

- ★ Civil Process fees
- ★ Driving While Intoxicated monies
- ★ auctioned vehicles and property
- ★ inmate cell rental opportunities
- ★ participation by the Holding Center in the federal school lunch program.

The unit also controls monies received from Police Service Contracts between the Sheriff's Office and Erie County villages for intensified police services.

Fleet Administration

The Fleet Office is responsible for the maintenance of marked and unmarked vehicles, motor cycles, boats, and snowmobiles. The Fleet supervisor has both administrative as well as hands-on duties to perform in order to keep the vehicle fleet operational and ready to respond to any emergency. The fleet consists of specially adapted cars, trucks, trailers, and vans that are fully equipped to perform their law enforcement mission.

Fleet maintenance provides for the preparation of vehicle specifications required in the bidding process and makes all necessary preparations for vehicle marking, decals, radio, and emergency lighting installation once the vehicle is purchased.

Every vehicle in the fleet is subjected to regularly scheduled preventative maintenance checks in order to assure dependability, as well as to minimize costly repairs through early detection and correction.

The Fleet Supervisor also is required to make budget recommendations to the Chief of Administrative Services regarding Fleet operating costs.

Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking, commonly referred to as “modern day slavery”, is a global phenomenon that involves obtaining or maintaining the labor or services of another through the use of force, fraud, or coercion in violation of an individual’s human rights. Generating billions of dollars in profits each year, human trafficking is one of the world’s fastest growing criminal activities, operating on the same scale as the illegal trade of guns and drugs. Fueled by global economic conditions and increased international mobility, the market for and trade of human beings continue to expand rapidly.

Six years ago, the United States Attorney General came to the Western District of New York to announce that the Department of Justice had funded a Human Trafficking Task Force District. \$900,000 was awarded by the Department of Justice in two equal grants to the Erie County Sheriff’s Office and the International Institute of Buffalo for the purpose of identifying and assisting victims of human trafficking and prosecuting those engaged in trafficking offenses. This task force includes the U.S. Attorney’s Office, the U.S. Department of Labor-Wage and Hour Division,



Mrs. New York State Karen Ohara & Deputy Elizabeth Fildes, BS, MS, Human Trafficking Program Director. (Mrs. Ohara used Human Trafficking as her platform for her title).

U. S. Border Patrol, the International Institute of Buffalo, Farm Worker Legal Services, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Under this grant, the Sheriffs’ Office has been given the task to educate and train law enforcement officers, prosecutors, EMS, and firefighters about human trafficking, as well as to train non-government organizations (including the public)

on what signs to look for when it comes to human trafficking. In 2011, we opened 14 cases of Human Trafficking, and trained approximately 7,300 people on the subject of human trafficking, including law enforcement agencies, educational institutions, and community groups. Our Office was able to secure another half million dollar federal grant to continue our fight on this horrific scourge.

Domestic Violence

The Erie County Sheriff’s Office provides victims of domestic violence (DV) early intervention through access to services and courts in order to provide safety and support. Our highly trained DV advocates understand the criminal justice system and the Social Services and Family Court systems. They are familiar with the communities’ resources and can provide appropriate referrals. Most importantly, our experienced advocates assist in helping to better understand, 365 days a year.

In 2011, our office logged 1,694 complaints of domestic violence, an increase of more than 300 from the previous year; 272 people were arrested.

Public Awareness Is Prevention Program

This program was developed by the Sheriff’s Office to promote the idea of prevention and education as the most effective way to reduce substance abuse in Erie County. The program is funded by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. The mission is to prevent and delay the onset of alcohol and other drug use, and to eliminate or reduce high-risk use.

Under the umbrella of this unit falls Px20, a collaboration of joined forces with several prevention service providers. The goal of Px20 is to develop a multi-year comprehensive prevention plan that incorporates data-driven decision-making and evidence-based practices into a local framework whereby the results can be used to help prevent alcohol and substance abuse in Erie County. This is a big undertaking, with a decade-long commitment and an initiative that we believe will save both lives and money. In 2011, we reached nearly a million people with our anti-underage drinking campaign in area cinema theaters. This, coupled with 72 yearly billboards dotted across the county with an anti-underage drinking theme, has helped propel this very important message to a whole cross-section of citizens.



Sheriff Howard and Erie County District Attorney Frank A. Sedita, III

Reserve Divisions



It is my pleasure to command the men and women who comprise the Erie County Sheriff's Office Reserve Divisions. The following Reserve Division Directory is a snapshot of the men and women who, at some time or another, have been called upon to assist their Sheriff's Office. They are to be commended for sacrificing their personal time, out-of-pocket money expenses, and the public relations efforts they put forth on a daily basis in proudly representing the Erie County Sheriff's Office. The individuals who serve in these specialized fields bring a wealth of knowledge and personal experience to the table when they are called upon to assist. I am truly grateful for their service; Erie County as a whole is a better place to live and work because of it.

- ★ Mounted Division
- ★ Aviation Reserve
- ★ Special Services
- ★ Scientific Reserve
- ★ Explorers



Members of the Erie County Sheriff's Explorer Post #505 fingerprint children at the Erie County Fair for Safe Child ID cards.

As the Office of Sheriff has a rich history, so too do these specialized units. The Mounted, which is the oldest and most visible Reserve Unit, began in 1942. The Mounted Reserve Deputies patrol at Bills home games, special events, and festivals. Each Mounted Reserve Deputy assumes all related expenses to their horses, which could run upwards of \$30,000.

The largest unit in the Reserve Division is the Scientific. It has roots dating back to 1971, when an all-volunteer advisory team made up of highly skilled individuals began to provide technical assistance to the Sheriff's Office. Their fields of expertise include, but are not limited to, physical, medical, art, business, and social sciences. This branch of the Reserve Division boasts dozens of members.

The Aviation Reserve Unit is comprised of pilots or observers who are sometimes called upon to help perform search and rescue missions, air surveillance, and air transportation. We have called this unit into action numerous times, including having them fly employees from the Sheriff's Office down to New York City after September 11, 2001, to assist in the recovery of evidence.



Members of the Erie County Sheriff's Office Explorers Post #505



Mounted Reserve Lt. Wayne Wolf and Mounted Reserve Captain Joe Metzger

The Special Services Unit also assists our Office in a variety of roles and details.

The Erie County Sheriff's Explorer Post #505 is an after-school career training program (called "Exploring") for young adults who want to gain insight into a law enforcement career. Exploring includes meetings, classes, hands-on exercises, observation, shadowing, field trips, scholarships, internships, and much more. Topics include: forensic sciences; citizenship; drug and alcohol abuse problems; drills and ceremonies; search warrants; personal defense; police pursuits; arrest procedures; search and seizure law; and firearms safety.

Candidates must be between the ages of 14 and 20 years of age, must be considered in good standing at their respective school, and must maintain at least a "C" average.

The Sheriff's Office Exploring program is conducted by Sheriff's Deputies and community volunteers at all three Erie Community College Campuses. Meetings are held twice a month, on weekdays from 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.. The Sheriff's Explorer Post was established in the year 1999.

Sheriff's Summer Conference

It was our honor to host the 2011 New York State Sheriff's Association Summer Conference in Buffalo. Dozens of sheriffs from across the state participated in the five-day event, commencing with the first pitch thrown out by Niagara County Sheriff Jim Voutour at the Buffalo Bisons home game on Monday, July 25th at Coca-Cola Field in downtown Buffalo. (Voutour played college baseball, and professional baseball with the Detroit Tigers organization; his position was catcher). The week was chalk full of information and fun as we had classes in the morning and entertainment in the afternoons and evenings. From riding jet boats in the mighty Niagara River to dinner on the U.S.S. Little Rock with the grandson of the former President of the United States and Sheriff of Erie County- Grover Cleveland, a fun time was had by all.



George Cleveland (grandson of President Grover Cleveland and former Erie County Sheriff) with Sheriff Howard



Retired Erie County Sheriff Mike Amico; Dan Centinello-Special Assistant to Sheriff Tim Howard and Retired Erie County Sheriff's Deputy Tony Fontana- also son-n-law of Sheriff Mike Amico



Niagara County Sheriff James Voutour throws out the first pitch at a Bisons game kicking off the festivities for the New York State Sheriff's Summer conference in Buffalo, NY.



Sheriffs Voutour and Howard react to the crowd.



Buffalo Bisons player autographs a fan's baseball.

Erie County Sheriff's Office Contact Information

Office/Facility	Address	Phone
Erie County Sheriff's Office Sheriff Timothy B. Howard Undersheriff Mark Wipperman	10 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-7608 (716) 662-5554
Administrative Services	10 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-7630
Division of Patrol	One Sheriff's Drive, Orchard Park, New York 14127	(716) 667-5200 Emergency 9-1-1
Patrol Administrative Number	(General Information)	(716) 662-6150
Crime Prevention/ Community Relations Unit	134 West Eagle Street, Buffalo, New York 14202	Phone: (716) 858-8863 Fax: (716) 858-2947
Public Awareness Is Prevention	134 West Eagle Street, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-6305
Civil Division	134 West Eagle Street, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-7606
Holding Center	40 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-7636
Correctional Facility	11581 Walden Avenue, Alden, New York 14004	General Information: (716) 937-9101
Investigative Services	One Sheriff's Drive, Orchard Park, New York 14127	(716) 667-5200
Training Office	Erie Community College North Campus 6205 Main Street, Bldg. B-700, Suite B-711 Williamsville, New York 14221	Phone - (716) 270-5382 Fax - (716) 270-5390 Corrections Training Office (716) 858-7206
Training Office	Office of Undersheriff 10 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-4979
Domestic Violence Unit	One Sheriff's Drive, Orchard Park, New York 14127	Ph (716) 667-5259 Hotline Fax (716) 662-8477
Sex Offender Registry		(716) 667-5236
Family Court Warrants and Child Support	134 West Eagle Street, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-3285 (716) 858-6158
Professional Standards Division	134 West Eagle Street, Buffalo, New York 14202	(716) 858-8088



Erie County Sheriff's Office

Timothy B. Howard, Sheriff

10 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14202

www.erie.gov/sheriff/

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